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Agenda item 88

Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee*

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1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2004, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled

> "Groups of countries in special situations:
>
> "(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
>
> "(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 29th to 31st meetings, on 9 and 10 November 2004. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/59/SR.29-31). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 8th meetings, on 4, 5, 6 and 12 October (see A/C.2/59/SR.2-8). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report, as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in three parts, under the symbol A/59/486 and Add.1 and 2.

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Sub-item	*Addendum*
(a)	1
(b)	2

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

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Letter dated 22 June 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/115)

Letter dated 15 July 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/59/158)

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/59/94-E/2004/77)

(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (A/59/208)

4. At the 29th meeting, on 9 November, the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/59/SR.29).

5. At the same meeting, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, the Committee held a dialogue with the High Representative during which comments were made and questions were posed by the Chairman to which the High Representative responded (see A/C.2/59/SR.29).

6. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development made a statement (see A/C.2/59/SR.29).

7. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Qatar (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union as well as Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Croatia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro and Iceland), China, Benin (on behalf of the Group of the Least Developed Countries), Norway, Bangladesh, Azerbaijan, Zambia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic (on behalf of the Group

of Landlocked Developing Countries), Burkina Faso, Mali and Japan (see A/C.2/59/SR.29).

8. At its 30th meeting, on 9 November, the Committee continued its consideration of the item and heard statements by the representatives of Nepal, Mongolia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Afghanistan and the Republic of Korea (see A/C.2/59/SR.30).

9. At its 31st meeting, on 10 November, the Committee continued its consideration of the item and heard statements by the representatives of Uganda, Kuwait, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kazakhstan and Maldives (see A/C.2/59/SR.31).

10. At the same meeting, statements were made by the observer for the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (see A/C.2/59/SR.31).